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ROBERT F. BYRNES
. . . accused by Soviets

Exchange Students Spied For CIA, Pravda Says

From News Dispatches

MOSCOW, March 1—Pravda charged today that the Central Intelligence Agency has used American students and professors working here as spies.

The CIA, it said, "would like to replace the lofty cause of cultural and scientific exchange with the dirty cause of espionage.

"Of course," said Pravda, the official organ of the Soviet Communist Party, "far from all American scientists and students who arrive in the Soviet Union are professional agents of U.S. intelligence or are 'volunteers' who took upon themselves the fulfillment of espionage functions."

The charges were raised by the CIA controversy in the United States. They touched an area of the Soviet-American cultural exchange program which thus far has been relatively free of Cold War polemics.

Since the first bilateral cultural agreement was signed in 1958, educational authorities on both sides have tried to keep the student and faculty exchanges out of the political limelight, although other parts of the agreement have been the source of considerable friction from time to time.

About 600 undergraduates and graduate students and teachers—300 from each side—have been exchanged since 1958. The last two-year cultural agreement was signed in April, 1966.

Among those accused by Pravda as having worked for the CIA are Prof. Robert F. Byrnes of Indiana University, chairman of the Inter-University Committee on Travel Grants, which negotiates the exchanges for the American side; Prof. Martin Malia of the University of California, and Prof. Albert Todd of Queens College, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Todd described the charges against him as "rubbish." Byrnes and Malia also denied them.

Among the students accused by Pravda were Edward Keenan, now an instructor at Harvard University, who denied the charges, John Adams and Edward Morrell.

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